

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE
WOOD RIVER WATERSHED ADVISORY GROUP
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2004
FAIRFIELD, IDAHO**

Chairman Daryle James called the meeting to order with the following in attendance: Carol Blackburn, Jo Lowe, Chuck Pentzer, Joe Schwarzback, Bill Davis, Clint Krahn, Allison Kennedy, Stef Frenzl, Mark Dallon, Rob Struthers DEQ Representatives Doug Howard, Clyde Lay, Jennifer Claire and Secretary Dana Sturgeon.

Minutes for November 25, 2003 were reviewed. Clint made the motion to accept the minutes as written. Carol seconded the motion. Motion carried. Vote unanimous.

David Ferguson, Range/Riparian Program Specialist with the Idaho Soil Conservation Commission from Boise, presented a slide show on the Big Wood River Area Tributary Riparian Assessments. These assessments were completed in 2003 and compiled in February 2004.

Priority Riparian Areas: The riparian areas that seem to be of primary concern to address grazing related impacts were Quigley Creek, Rock Creek (includes East Fork) and Seamans Creek. These three water bodies still consist primarily of agriculture landuse (livestock grazing). Livestock grazing is having some degree of impact on riparian health & stream function. Some cropland areas exist on Croy Creek but do not seem to be directly impacting stream function. Some small farms exist on Greenhorn and Croy Creeks, but due to the current and swift change in landuse, these did not warrant an intensive riparian resource inventory in respect to livestock grazing. There do exist some areas along the Big Wood River with direct livestock access but does not seem to impact stream function. Because of the river's large size and its "hard" (bedrock/boulder) substrate material, primarily downstream of the Magic Reservoir, livestock trampling of banks seem to have little affect.

Private land ownership:

Owner	Quigley Creek	Rock Creek	Seamans Creek *Estimate
B.L.M.	6,100	12,567	11,309
Forest Service	206	0	0
Open Water	0	19	16
Private	4,238	11,684	1,897
State of Idaho	842	2,039	1,834
Total Acres	11,386	26,310	15,055

His report includes the following information and various tables:

- Private land use/management
- Annual precipitation
- Air temperature
- Rosgen stream type
- Valley type
- Channel soil/substrate
- Riparian vegetation
- Channel elevation, length and slope
- Channel shape
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- Channel dimensions, floodplain & entrenchment
- Various attributes; various attributes, excessive deposition, unstable head cuts
- Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) Assessment

Private Land Riparian Resource Problems:

Riparian/Wetland Vegetation – those reaches found **without** adequate stabilizing vegetative species are:

East Fork Rock Creek – EFRC1, 2 & 5

Rock Creek – RC2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10,12,13,14,15 & 17

Seamans Creek – SC4

Lateral Stream Bank Erosion – streams found to have excessive lateral stream bank erosion are:

Rock Creek – RC5, 6, 10, 11 & 15

Seamans Creeks – SC4

Channel Down-cutting – Only one stream reach was found to be actively down cutting (contain unstable head cuts is:

East Fork Rock Creek-EFRC1

Floodplain Development – Stream reaches found to have excessive lateral bank erosion, creating greater floodplain area are:

Rock Creek –RC6, 7, 10 & 15

Seamans Creek – SC4

Private Land Riparian Improvement Recommendations:

Private Land Priority Treatment Areas

Reaches with high potential for successful treatment, but not at PFC

East Fork Rock Creek – EFRC1, 2 and 5

Rock Creek – RC1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 13 & 14

Rock Creek - RC1

Seamans Creek – SC2 Rock Creek – RC17

Seamans Creek – SC2

Reaches with lower potential for successful treatment

Rock Creek – RC6, 7, 10 – Excessive lateral erosion, floodplain developing outward

Rock Creek – RC15 –Unstable beaver dams, floodplain developing outward

Rock Creek – RC17 – Reach potentially impacted by backwater of Magic Reservoir

Seamans Creek – SC1 – Limited water availability, no shallow aquifer connected to channel

Seamans Creek – SC4 – Excessive lateral erosion, floodplain developing outward

Seamans Creek SC6, 7, 8 – Flows altered, irrigation practices limit vegetation diversity

Reaches at rated at PFC

East Fork Rock Creek – EFRC3 & 4

Quigley Creek – QC1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Rock Creek – RC8, 9 & 16

Seamans Creek – SC3

Stef Frenzl handed out a proposal by the Wood River Land Trust for the Croy Street Bridge Abutment Removal & Restoration Project. The handout included an introduction, history, project need, methods, budget and summary, as well as pictures of the area and other attachments.

The Wood River Land Trust is spearheading an effort to remove the dilapidated original Croy Street Bridge abutment, stabilize the riverbank and restore riparian habitat along the Big Wood River in Hailey, Idaho. The abutment is located immediately north of the standing Bullion Street Bridge along the Big Wood River. Additionally, the Wood River Land Trust is proposing to remove a concrete spill located along the west bank and restore the bank with riparian vegetation.

Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Program for the Croy Bridge Removal and Restoration Project Budget is as follows:

319 Grant -	\$ 15,535
Match	<u>11,095</u>
Total	\$ 26,630

Stef requested that the WAG support the project. Those in attendance felt it was an excellent project and well presented. Rob made a motion for the Wood River Watershed Advisory Group to send a letter of support for the project. Carol seconded the motion. Motion carried. Vote unanimous.

Jo passed out a mission statement for the Wood River Watershed Advisory Group to be included on the web site.

The next meeting will be held in Carey at 7:00 P.M. on March 23, 2004.

The meeting for April was set for the 27th at 7:30 P.M. in Fairfield. **(Please note the new summer time beginning in April)**

Daryle James
Chairman